MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Before fixing the time is it not necessary that the leave of the House should be obtained?

PRESIDENT: Yes. Those in favour of the motion will please signify their assent.

(None stood up.)

PRESIDENT: As there is no one in favour of the motion, the motion is disallowed.

WELCOME TO THE NEW PRESIDENT.

SADASYA TILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): This meeting of the Sri Mulam Assembly luckily synchronises with the happy week when the festivities connected with the birthday of His Highness the Maharaja, Sri Chitra Thirunal, are being kept up with joyous enthusiasm throughout the State and beyond it. The very elements revel in happiness. Humanity leaps in joy, for, the excrescences which hitherto prevented the natural development of social justice, the incrustations of time which kept a large portion of the subjects of His Highness the Maharaja, along with their bretheren in other parts of India, smothered under the ban of untouchability and unapproachability, have been removed by the recent Royal Proclamation, that great instalment of benevolent legislation, which has made His Highness' twenty-fourth birthday a most remarkable and momentous event in the history of modern India. From the Himalayas to Cape Comorin the whole continent is in ecstasy. The atmosphere resounds with the praises of our beloved Sovereign who, in the short space of five years, has vindicated the noble traditions of his dynasty and justified the expectations of an admiring world by a series of beneficent measures. The star which shines so bright when it has but begun its course in the firmament must needs bathe this ancient land in splendour in the steady progress to culmination. This House offers its loyal and respectful congratulations to His Highness the Maharaja on his birthday. May His Highness' reign be long, happy and glorious.

On behalf of this Assembly I tender you, Sir, a hearty welcome. Your name is being associated with that of His Highness the Maharaja in the great chapters in the history of freedom which are being shaped in Travancore. We see the accelerated momentum of progress in this State after you became the Dewan. You have had such great opportunities of doing public work and public good as few Indians have ever had. You came to Travancore after winning renown in numerous fields of human endeavour, after compelling the admiration of friends and opponents alike. Your contribution to Indian political thought and your share in the development of New India have been remarkable. "District problems" were for a long time your special study, but you looked at them from the beginning with an eye to their proper place in a scheme of federated effort for making India strong and rich and great. The public works inaugurated in the Madras Presidency under your fostering care are becoming the sources of the streams of plenty in South India. It is only work of a solid character which brings a man an Indian reputation. You did that work and you earned that reputa-

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tion. Your bold advocacy of the rights of Indian States, and Travancore in particular, in the Round Table Conference has resulted in immense good. This House, which owes its origin and its powers in large measure to your advice is therefore happy to welcome you as its President.

Sir, the Dewanship of Travancore is a great trust, a severe responsibility. The area of this State may not be very large; but we the people of Travancore have a continuity of tradition, a breadth of outlook and an enlightened judgment which is the fruit of long years of good administration under the guidance of an illustrious line of Maharajahs assisted by a succession of Dewans some of whom were men of outstanding eminence. No Dewan has hitherto entered Bhaktivilas with better credentials or with greater loyalty than your esteemed self. And you have entered upon your duties, with an open mind on public questions, with a judicial impartiality, and a genuine desire to solve them for the public good. Your utterances bespeak a correct and sympathetic appreciation of the intelligence of the people of Travancore, their ardent love of country and their ingrained loyalty to the throne and person of the Sovereign. Seventy years ago Lord Napier, who was then Governor of Fort St. George, addressing one of your great predecessors Dewan T. Madhava Rao (afterwards Rajah Sir T. Madhava Rao) while investing him with the Insignia of the Order of Knighthood of the Star of India, said: "Continue to serve the Maharaja industriously and wisely, reflecting the intelligence and virtues of His Highness faithfully to his people. The mission in which you are engaged has more than a local and transitory significance. Remember, that the spectacle of a good Indian Minister serving a good Indian Sovereign is one which may have a lasting influence on the policy of England and the future of Native Governments". This is the true ideal. The distinguished order to which His Highness the Maharaja was pleased to admit you at the Birthday Durbar is an eloquent testimony to your devotion to His Highness the Maharaja, the prestige of royalty, and your solicitude for the good of the people.

Sir, from the pinnacle of prominence to which you had raised yourself by dint of talent and industry, supported by an all-round culture and generous impulse, you have accepted in a graceful manner and without parading any sacrifice the high office which His Highness the Maharaja who knew you so long and so intimately was pleased to offer you. Having come here, you have set yourself to the task of improving the material and moral condition of the people, improving agriculture, industry and trade, enhancing the cultural value of our institutions and making our life fuller, richer and happier. In all this noble effort your joy is to glorify His Highness the Maharaja and to display the beauty, the magnificence and the harmony of His Highness' intentions.

I assure you Sir, that in this noble endeavour this House composed of representatives of various classes and interests will give you all legitimate co-operation, all legitimate assistance. I make bold to say that you have every reason to feel that the larger rights conferred on the Legislature by the Reforms have been fully justified by the wisdom,

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[Sadasya Tilaka T. K. Velu Pillai.]

the sobriety and the dignity of its deliberations. Your predecessors have treated the Assembly with becoming courtesy and regard. And I am sure that with your broad vision and phenomenal knowledge and experience of public bodies, provincial and imperial, you will maintain our rights, safeguard our privileges, and facilitate its dignified association with His Highness' Government in working for the good of the State and the well-being of the people. This House welcomes you Sir, with open hands and with the warmest feelings of pleasure. (*Applause*).

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): I wish to associate myself with the sentiments of congratulation given expression to by my esteemed friend Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai. The very large number of receptions accorded to you on your way to the capital city to take up your new portfolio bear ample testimony to the jubilant spirit in which this country welcomed your Dewanship. Your intimate association with Travancore and its Royal House for the past several years, we are sure, will stand in good stead in understanding and appreciating the various internal and external problems that confront the State. Your varied and wide experience of life and your unparalleled devotion to the Throne and person of His Highness the Maharaja will enable you to tackle all these problems with a degree of success unachieved by several others.

The problem of depressed classes has been, for ages long, the greatest impediment to the progress of Indian society and polity. You have rightly laid your finger on that crucial question and I must say that you have taken a very bold step in advising His Highness the Maharaja who has been graciously pleased to allow Temple entry to all Hindus (*Applause*), an act which has added luster to His Highness who is already a brilliant luminary in the firmament of Indian Princes. We hope that you will spare no pains in securing and safeguarding the due rights and privileges of this State in the new federal State which is being evolved in British India. The Birthday title 'Sachivothama' which His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to confer upon you is but a token of His Highness's warm appreciation of your loyalty and devotion to his person. I take this opportunity to congratulate His Highness as well as his Minister.

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): Sir, permit me to associate myself heartily with all that has been said by the Deputy President with reference to the Dewan-President of the day.

I have the privilege to speak on behalf of a not inconsiderable section, the Liberal party in the Assembly, under the distinguished leadership of Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai, in whose unavoidable absence it devolves upon me, Sir, to extend to you, our hearty felicitations on the discriminating choice made by His Highness the Maharaja to the most responsible office in this ancient and far off State of Travancore.

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As we are well aware you have been associated with this State's interests for a long time now; and we believe your masterful hand has had a great share in shaping a constitutional scheme, I mean the bicameral system of legislature in this State and in revising it, as re-requirements necessitated, much in advance of the systems obtaining elsewhere in the British Indian provinces or in other Indian States.

Thanks to that bold stroke of policy, fears have all been laid low, and a most intricate problem practically solved for the present. Those that have helped the Government to work it up and promise to continue that work deserve gratitude. I will not say more. Though the life of this Assembly is waning short, we assure you, Sir, that you can count on our utmost help and support in keeping up the tone and the diginity, the force and independence of the House which you shall guide far beyond our term of work.

As the Legal and Constitutional Adviser to His Highness, you have spared no pains and stinted no labour to bring this illustrious State and our beloved Sovereign to the forefront in the world's recognition and of illustrious circles; and we are proud of the discriminating choice of His Highness in entrusting to your hands the destinies of this land for, we believe, a number of years to come.

We want you Sir, during this period of evolution through distress. For, are we not seeing around us all throughout the world a wide and wild awakening of which the ultimate results are shrouded in breathless suspense? Are we not passing through a crisis of social and political and economic upheaval of which the far reaching consequences demand a far seeing eye? Imperial interests intertwined with the interests of this State now demand a mutual settlement on a firm basis for ordered progress in all directions; and we can look up to no man other than yourself with your love and admiration for this country to tide us safely over the ruffles that are presently to overtake us. Since you have been appointed to this high place, we have been watching with rapt anxiety your utterances and writings concerning the interests of this State, both external and internal, and we are glad to assure you Sir, that every problem that you have touched, whether it be political or administrative, social or economic, religious or communal, has been handled under the masterful guidance of His Highness with a characteristic foresight and energy that have not failed to evoke the genuine admiration and sympathy of all who wish well of their King and their Country.

Let me not make any particular reference to the various deputations that waited upon you with important matters of public interest, or to your speeches and writings in the public and the Press. For, they all point to one end; your earnest endeavour to give self expression to this country's cause, and to bring the State into the van of the most forward peoples of the Empire; and may we hope, knowing as we do your signal services to its cause, that the courageous and energetic policy which you have set out will grow from more to more, and

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[Mr. K. C. Abraham.]

gather strength to strength that in the fulness of time His Highness's reign may well be renowned in the story of this land, as an era of unparalleled peace, progress and plenty. We extend to you our sincere co-operation. and wish you all success.

RAO SAHIB MAHA KAVI S. PARAMESWARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Pray permit me, Sir, to add my tribute of cordial and respectful felicitations to His Gracious Highness the Maha Raja and to yourself, to those which have already flowed with such significant spontaneity from this side of the House. Great occasions need great men, and at a time like this Travancore requires a "Sachivothama" of your physical strength, mental equipment and moral stamina, to deal with the several problems, administrative, political, social and constitutional that confront her. A true and tried son of Mother India, a stalwart among stalwarts in the fields of administration and politics, of literature and law, gifted with an eloquence which is forcefully reminiscent of Dr. Annie Besant, an intellectual giant who has won fadeless laurels in several spheres of public usefulness not only in India but also in Great Britain, the trusted friend, philosopher, and guide of our ruling family in Travancore for many years now, you have been, if I may say so, with due respect and becoming submission, rightly selected by His Highness the Maharaja to fill the office of Dewan and you have accepted that office, at great personal sacrifice, impelled by a dominating sense of duty.

Sir, in former times we had a Rama as our Prime Minister, the Great Ramayyan Dalawa. We had also a "Valia Divanji" the equally great "Raja Kesava Das." Allow me, Sir, to assure you that it is not merely our fervent prayer, eager hope or our confident belief, but our firm expectation that, as the watchful guardian of the ever expanding interests of our dear motherland in the eventful years to come, it will be given to you to so distinguish yourself and to leave such an illustrious and enduring record behind as to enable a grateful posterity to count your name with those of Ramayyan Dalawa and Raja Kesava Das and to remember you for ever as Valiya Divanji Ramasvami Aiyar of Travancore.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): Sir, I too wish to associate myself with the sentiments already expressed by the previous speakers and to join in the felicitations. During the banquet given recently by the Indian princes in honour of His Excellency Lord Willingdon, the then Viceroy of India, it was His Highness Sri Chitra Tirunal who said that Native States were no anachronism, but that they were an essential ingredient of the Indian polity who could contribute much to the progress and well-being of the country. To-day His Highness has more than justified the claim he then made. What British Indian politicians could not achieve by years of agitation and what was still considered to be a goal not to be realised in the near future, has been achieved by His Highness in the twinkling of an eye. Sir, by the Temple Entry

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Proclamation His Highness has not merely removed a great blot on Hinduism, but he has actually removed a great blot from Indian material life and laid the foundation for the complete unification of India.

Having said this much I would request you, Sir, to so frame the rules as to make it possible for all subjects of His Highness the Maha Raja, irrespective of caste or creed, to derive what spiritual benefits they can from the temples now thrown open.

Sir, the granting of temple entry to non-caste Hindus of His Highness the Maharaja has certainly removed a blot from Hinduism. Personally I think that His Highness will be adding more lusture to his name if the non-Hindus of the State are also allowed temple entry. (No, No, No). So I request you Sir, to convey to His Highness the request of this House to make the recent Proclamation still more comprehensive by throwing open the temples not only to all his Hindu subjects but to the non-Hindus also (No. No).

PRESIDENT: Order, order.

MR. P. C. KURIAN (*Kottayam I*): Sir, Hinduism as I understand is so liberal that it has in its fold every form of worshippers from the higher Sanadhanist to those who follow a low and crude form of worship and I do not see any reason why Christians who were Hindus about five hundred years ago are not brought under this Proclamation. Sir, my question is why a distinction is made in the matter of Christians and other non-Hindus entering the temples.

PRESIDENT: Honourable member should confine his speech to the motion under consideration.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): Sir, I have seen temples in British India and they are really temples of beauty, more so than most of the Museums we find.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. Is the hon'ble member privileged to make random attacks on Hinduism in the guise of offering a few words of congratulation to the new President?

PRESIDENT: I have been watching the hon'ble member's speech and if I find any reflection on the beliefs of other sections of the House I will stop him. But I take it that the hon'ble member who is now on his legs does not intend to cast any reflection on any section of belief in the State.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): Sir, I was making only an appeal that other non-Hindu Christians may also be allowed the opportunity of seeing and appreciating the beauty of the Hindu temples in our State.

PRESIDENT: The hon'ble member will now turn to some other topics.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): Sir, I also heartily welcome you as the President of this Assembly.

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MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Meeting as we do during the birthday festivities of His Highness the Maharaja, I deem it my paramount duty to offer my heartfelt and loyal felicitations to His Gracious Highness the Maharaja on His Highness's 24th birthday. At the same time I have great pleasure in according to you Sir, a most cordial welcome as the President of this august Assembly. Sir, it has been pointed out by my predecessors that this bicameral legislature is a product of your intelligence. Hence it is only appropriate that we express our feelings of gratitude and congratulation to you on this occasion when you preside for the first time. Sir, it is no exaggeration to say that few Dewans have had such varied experience both as an official and as a non-official, as you possess. Whether as a distinguished member of the Bar, or as a member of the World Economic Conference or of the Round Table Conference in London or as a member of the Federal Structure Sub-Committee or as a member of the Executive Council, you have left an indelible impression and have earned an undying reputation. Your wide experience of men and things, your thorough mastery of political and economic questions, your forensic ability, your versatile talents, and above all, your wonderful capacity to work hard, will stand you in good stead in carrying on the administration of this enlightened State to the maximum benefit of its people. Sir, you have been chosen as the trusted Minister of our beloved Sovereign at a most critical juncture in the annals of Travancore history when she is contemplating to join the Federation. Sir, there are very many problems to be solved and which require your immediate attention and we legitimately hope that your past record of glorious achievements will enable you to tackle these problems most successfully, so that when this period of the history of Travancore comes to be written, your name would find a place in the forefront among the distinguished galaxy of Travancore's Ministers.

Sir, let your strenuous efforts, let your wise utterances result in materialisation and beneficial action; let your efforts be crowned with success; that is my humble prayer. I once again extend to you, Sir, our warmest felicitations and congratulations.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Sir, I have great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments expressed by the honourable members on this side of the House. It is not certainly exaggeration to say that words fail me to give adequate expression to the feelings that are urging uppermost in my mind at present. A great event of far reaching importance has been made possible to be associated with the celebration of His Highness's birthday. This day of jubilation and rejoicing is doubly blessed for this great Proclamation of granting temple-entry to those hitherto prohibited. This is really appreciated in the whole of this country and outside. Sir, I am just now reminded of the saying of that great Philosopher Poet that "great wits jumpeth", which simply means that great men agree. Am I wrong to say that this great Proclamation proves the truth of this statement. Obviously our great Maharaja was awaiting a great man's arrival as

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his Minister, to agree on the promulgation of this bold, high-minded and patriotic Proclamation of cutting asunder this touch of untouchability which is a blot on Hinduism. Sir, it appears to me that it may be very easily likened to the great sermon on the Mount. It means that in future there shall not be any distinction between man and man and that there shall not be any inequality in respect of the worship of their creator in temples. I may say that this great thing for which the greatest man of the present day world works hard, and lives and once even swore to die, had been done by our benovelent Maharaja. Sir, it has given a sigh of relief to the millions of our fellow countrymen both here as well as outside. Not only is this a question of venturesome expression of a feeling for humanity but it is going to result in the salvation of future India. Not only it is a question of freedom for religious worship here in our State; but the cause of great relief to the feelings of the people of British India also as evidence of which I may refer to the so many messages that have been published day-to-day in the Dailies of British India. Sir, really speaking, this Proclamation, none of us who have been working for the removal of untouchability expected so soon; and if I have the permission, even to such of those who might know you intimately, any other thing would not have been a surprise; but this daring Proclamation even to them is a bolt from the blue.

Ever since your assumption of the administration, I have been watching you, though at a distance and listening to your replies to the several deputations that waited on you with very important representations. I noticed from them that you are all-absorbed and extremely anxious to promote the prestige of our State and thereby serve well by our king. Now I ask you, Sir, whether this Proclamation has not already vouchsafed for our State, abundance of prestige for which you dream day in and day out. I ask you, Sir, could prestige for our State go further? Our State by this one noble act of our Maharaja has already secured an abiding place in the hearts of millions and has been acclaimed to be a model for others to follow. The prestige of our State is safe in your hands. Sir, our feelings of heart felt welcome burst forth to you spontaneously on this celebration of the birthday of our Maharaja, the emancipator and the deliverer of God's creatures on earth who have been hitherto trodden underneath. But now they can stand erect as men relieved, as people freed and they could breathe freely having been restored to God-given self-respect. Sir, I stop here and wish you all success.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Sir, on behalf of the National Party which represents the youth of the country and as the representative of Commerce and Industry I beg to offer the Party's welcome to you. First of all let me be permitted to place on record our heartfelt feelings of loyalty to His Highness the Maharaja. In recent years, we people in Travancore have become dull and unimaginative. What the country's commerce and industries

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[Mr. P. Chidambaram Pillai.]

specially wanted was neglected and when we heard about the forward policy, which you initiated as regards the industries of this country, we foresaw a bright future for the country. I am able to count that in the past there are so many achievements which are standing to your credit. We expect and we hope for a very successful administration.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*) : On my behalf and on behalf of the backward communities which I represent I take it as a privilege to associate myself with what has been said by the previous speakers, especially with what has been so feelingly put by my friend on the right side. No person is better fitted to be welcomed as the President of this Assembly with sincerity and warmth of feeling than your worthy self in virtue of the fact that our legislative reforms of which this Assembly is the most important item have been brought into existence under your inspiring constitutional advice and of the fact that it prepares the State of ours to take its legitimate part in the all-India Federation in the scheme of which you have taken not an unimportant part. Under you it is hoped that the legislative bodies will be more and more liberalised as our Hindu Religion purged of its unapproachability and untouchability has been liberalised and beautified. Sir, I cannot miss this opportunity to request you to communicate the profound feeling of gratitude of the backward communities to the noble sovereign for bringing out a person of your eminence to become the President of this Assembly, your handiwork and school of politics in which all classes of His Highness's subjects are trained in political education. I also request you to convey to His Gracious Highness that the members of the backward communities to whom the consolation and solace of Hindu faith has been denied hitherto, will, when standing before the Deities, first offer their prayers not for their own salvation, but for His Highness's longlife and prosperity and the glory of His Highness, for the promulgation of the Temple Entry Proclamation, which is going to truly spiritualise the Hindus. They are also thankful to the Minister who has wholeheartedly supported His Highness in this noble endeavour,

SRIMATHI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*) : Sir, I have very great pleasure in supporting the motion and associating myself with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers. The appointment of your esteemed self, as the Dewan of our State, has already been abundantly justified. We are now witnessing the dawn of a new era of all-round reforms, the most important of which is the Temple Entry Proclamation. We, the loyal subjects of His Gracious Highness the Maharaja, have to be profoundly grateful to His Highness for the very happy selection made for the Dewanship of our State. May His Highness live long to reign from more to more. With these words I extend to you, Sir, a very hearty welcome.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*) : ഞാൻ വളരെ സന്തോഷത്തോടും ആഹ്ലാദത്തോടുംകൂടി അഭിനന്ദനം രേഖപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു.

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സർ, തിരുനാൾ വാരം തിരുവിതാംകൂർ പ്രജകളായ അൻപ
ത്തൊന്നുലക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളെ ആനന്ദസാഗരത്തിൽ ആറാടിക്കുന്ന ഒരു അ
പൂർവ ഘട്ടമത്രേ. ശ്രീ ചിത്തിരതിരുനാൾ മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമേനിക്കു
ഇരുപത്തിനാലു തിരുവയസ്സു പൂർത്തിയായിട്ടുള്ള ഈ സന്ദർഭം, തിരുവി
താംകൂർ പ്രജകളെ പൂർവാധികം ആനന്ദതുന്ദിലരാക്കി തീർത്തിരിക്കുന്നു.
വിശേഷിച്ചു് സകല ഹിന്ദുക്കൾക്കും ക്ഷേത്രപ്രവേശനവും ആരാധനാ
സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യവും കല്പിച്ചനുവദിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുള്ള തിരുവെഴുത്തുവിളംബരം
ഹൈന്ദവലോകത്തെ അത്യുന്നതമാം പുളകിതരാക്കിത്തീർത്തിരിക്കുകയാ
കുന്നു. അഭൂതപൂർവമായ ഈ സംഭവം തിരുവിതാംകൂർ രാജ്യചരിത്ര
ത്തിൽ അത്യുജ്ജ്വലകരമായ ഒരു സുവർണ്ണാദ്ധ്യായത്തെ കുറിക്കുന്നതാണ
ല്ലോ. സർവോപരി പ്രജാവാത്സല്യത്തെ മുൻനിറുത്തി രാജ്യപരിപാ
ലനം ചെയ്തുപോരുന്ന പൊന്നുതമ്പുരാൻ തിരുമേനിയും തിരുമനസ്സി
ലെ ആത്മസാക്ഷാൽകാരിണിയും, മഹാമനസ്വിനിയും ആയ അമ്മത
മ്പുരാൻ തിരുമേനിയും പ്രജകളുടെ മാത്രമല്ല ഹൈന്ദവസമുദായത്തി
ന്റെ അഭേദ്യമായ നിത്യാരാധന സമാർജ്ജിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു ഇ
തിപ്പുരം ഒരാഹ്ലാദം തിരുവിതാംകൂറുകാർക്കു പൊതുവേ പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു്
അധൃഷ്യതക്കും അവർണ്ണക്കും വേറെ ഉണ്ടാകാനില്ല. തിരുമനസ്സുകൊ
ണ്ടു് കല്പിച്ച മഹാനായ അങ്ങയെ ഇവിടെ മന്ത്രിയായി നിയമിച്ച
തിലും അവിടുന്നു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ വിശ്വസ്തമന്ത്രിപദം സ്വീകരിച്ച
തിലും ഉള്ള അനുമോദനവും ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ രേഖപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു.
തിരുവിതാംകൂറിനെ ഭരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള മന്ത്രിമാർക്കൊരുത്തർക്കും ഏതാവൽപ
യ്നും സാധിച്ചിട്ടില്ലാത്തവിധത്തിൽ പൊതുജനങ്ങളെ ഹാർദ്ദമാകർഷി
ക്കുവാൻ അങ്ങേക്കു സാധിച്ചു. അവിടത്തെ തിരുവിതാംകൂർഭരണം
നിശ്ചയമായും ശുഭപര്യവസായിയായിത്തീരുമെന്നു നിസ്സംശയം അഭി
പ്രായപ്പെടാവുന്നതാണു്. ഊർജ്ജസ്വലനും ബഹുമുഖധിഷണാശാലിയു
മായ അങ്ങയുടെ നേതൃത്വം തിരുവിതാകൂറിന്റെ വിവിധാഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കു
സാഹായ്യമാണെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നവർ അനേകമുണ്ടു്. വലിയവരും ചെ
റിയവരും എന്നുവേണ്ട തിരുമനസ്സിലെ പ്രജാവലികം എല്ലാം
തന്നെ അങ്ങയുടെ രാജ്യസേവനശ്രമങ്ങളിൽ മനമുറു സഹകരിക്കു
മെന്നു എനിക്കു പൂർണ്ണബോദ്ധ്യമുണ്ടു്. എല്ലായും വേഗത്തിൽ
ഇതിലുമുപരി ഭാവുകാഭിവൃദ്ധിയിൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ മേൽക്കുമേൽ പരി
ലസിക്കാൻ സംഗതിയാകട്ടെ എന്നു സർവാത്മനാ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു.
പൊന്നുതിരുമേനിയുടെ ഭാസുരമായ സൽക്കീർത്തിയിൽ ചാരിതാർത്ഥ്യം
കൈക്കൊണ്ടും അങ്ങേ ഭരണത്തിൽ അളവറ്റ സന്തോഷം പ്രകടിപ്പി

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[Mr. T. T. Kesava Sastri.]

ച്ചുകൊണ്ടും രാജ്യാഭിവൃദ്ധി സദാ പ്രത്യാശിച്ചുകൊണ്ടും, എന്റെ അഭിനന്ദനം ഇങ്ങനെ രേഖപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു:— സർ,

സൂര്യനസ്തമിക്കാത്ത ഭൂമിക്കങ്ങേകാധീശൻ
ആയ്വീര്യാഭിരാമൻ ബ്രിട്ടീഷ്സാമ്രാട്ടപോലും,
ഏതൊരു വിശിഷ്ടനാം വ്യക്തിയെ സമാദര
പൂർവം ഹാ! പൂജിക്കുന്നു വാഴ്ത്തുന്നു നിരന്തരം.
ലോകൈകമഹാമതി സ്വതന്ത്രസ്വതന്ത്രൻ
സർവലോകപ്രസിദ്ധൻ സജ്ജനസമാരാധ്യൻ
സർ. സി. പി രാമസ്വാമിഅയ്യരാം മഹാഭാഗൻ
വിഖ്യാതഗുണ നിധി വിദുഷാമഗ്രേസരൻ
അഖിലലോകകീർത്തി സിദ്ധിച്ച ഭാരതീയ
മഹിതസന്താനൌഘമാല തൻ നടുരത്നം
വിദിതരാജ്യതന്ത്രവിജ്ഞരിലഗ്രഗണ്യൻ
മഹിതസദ്ഭാവനാമങ്ങിങ്ങു ജയിച്ചാലും. !!

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Sir, on my own behalf and on behalf of the Independent Party of this House, I have great pleasure in endorsing fully the sentiments of appreciation and felicitation expressed on the floor of this House. Sir, we also welcome you as the new President of this House. We are to-day meeting here at the ninth session of this Assembly; and this is the first session under your presidency. The number nine is a very good number; it has got very many good things in store. We are now meeting amidst the rejoicings in connection with the birthday of His Highness the Maha Raja. Our feelings of joy have been heightened by the fact that, in connection with the birthday celebrations, the momentous Proclamation, throwing open all the temples under the control of the Government to all classes of people, has marked another mile stone in the progress of Travancore. Sir, we are all aware of the famous *Pattom* Proclamation of the year 1040 M. E. That has been rightly called the Magna Charta of the Travancore ryot. Sir, if that is the Magna Charta of the Travancore ryot, this recent Proclamation, which His Highness has been graciously pleased to issue and in framing which you were privileged to tender proper advice to His Highness, is, in its wide sweep, in its far-reaching effect and in its humanitarian appeal, worthy of being placed side by side with some of the famous edicts of the Emperor Asoka the Great. Sir, this Proclamation is not only of Travancore importance. It will have repurcussions in the whole of the sub-continent of India, nay, in the whole world.

Sir, permit us to judge you and your work on another occasion. Now we have only to welcome you since this is the first occasion when

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you preside over the deliberations of this House. As you yourself have observed on another occasion, when you lay down your office, that will be the proper time and occasion for us to judge your work.

I request you, Sir, to convey our respectful felicitations to His Highness the Maha Raja.

PRESIDENT: The words to which I have listened and the manner in which the sentiments that have been uttered were couched, have filled me with an overwhelming sense of gratitude as also of embarrassment. But, in one matter, I have no sense of uneasiness or dubiety or embarrassment and that relates to the unanimous, consentaneous desire on the part of all sections of this House, which is an embodiment and a microcosm of the State of Travancore, to felicitate His Highness the Maha Raja on this happy and auspicious occasion of His birthday. It will be my privilege, as it will be my very great pleasure, to convey to His Highness those sentiments which have been so well expressed.

The occasion has also been taken to refer to a very momentous and far-reaching act by which His Highness has signalised his reign. His Highness has thereby ranged himself by the side of the great helpers of humanity who have raised the self-respect and elevated the status of the masses of this country. (*Hear, hear. Cheers.*) The problems of the world to-day in essence are not political; they are really social and economical. In the rehablitation of the self-respect of every component part of humanity, and in the vindication of their self-respect, in the granting of equality of opportunity and of aspiration, a great service has been done. It will be my duty as well as my privilege to communicate to His Highness the general sentiment throughout India of which you have voiced the expression.

Now, turning to the remarks that have been made about me, I may without reserve voice my feelings of embarrassment. This is the first time that I have been called upon to fill the presidential chair of any Assembly. It has been given to me to be a non-official member of every kind of chamber in India. I have been a non-official member of the Madras Legislative Council; I have been a non-official member of the Council of State; I have also been a non-official member of the Legislative Assembly. It has also been my privilege to be the Leader of every kind of Assembly in India. But there are two offices which I have not filled till now, namely, the Judgeship of a High Court and the Presidentship of an Assembly. Fifteen years ago, the honour was done to me of offering a Judgeship in the Madras High Court. At the risk of appearing somewhat trivial and frivolous, I may mention to you the answer I gave. I said, I preferred to talk nonsense for a few hours every day than to hear nonsense all day long. (*Laughter.*) But, that is a pure digression. As I have stated, I have not occupied the presidential chair of any Assembly and from the mistake in procedure that I made this morning, you can well realise that this is my "prentice" effort. *Laughter.*)

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[President.]

In my tenure of this seat, I crave your indulgence and your forbearance. But I know that the seat that I occupy is one charged with great responsibilities and great duties. This Assembly has already established fine traditions. My predecessor, Sir Mahomed Habibullah, my great friend, who was also my colleague in the Madras Executive Council and in other spheres, has set an example which may be hard to follow. There are few things in which he excelled more than in the suavity of his manner, the way in which he dealt with opposition, in the way in which he brought together and harmonised various people. May it be given to me to emulate those qualities of my predecessor. As I said elsewhere, Travancore is a country where the people are highly educated and alert and watchful. And may I say, Travancore has a very "curious" legislature, curious not in the ordinary sense, but curious in the sense that it is full of curiosity as I found this morning when listening to the interpellations and supplementary questions. (*Laughter*) It will be my duty to help you in every possible way. It will be my privilege to uphold your privileges. It will be my constant preoccupation to bring into existence traditions which will make the Travancore Legislature the equal of any legislature in this country.

Now, various administrative and other problems have been referred to. But the answer that I shall give is the answer which has already been forestalled by the last speaker. You have spoken of what I have done in the past. I do not propose to refer to that aspect of the matter. I should only refer to the opportunity that has been given to me to be of service to His Highness and to the people of Travancore. I shall only advert to my earnest and abiding desire to render such service and to devote such energies as I have at my disposal (the whole of my energies and time are now pledged to Travancore and to His Highness the Maha Raja of Travancore) for the solution of the problem before me. You and I are confronted with many difficult problems, problems which are domestic, problems which are economic and problems of wider application. There is the question of the rehabilitation of the industries of this country, of making it something more than purely an agricultural country, of supplementing and augmenting its resources. There is the other problem of the Federation. Our entry into it is fraught with great consequences. It is not a subject which can be dealt with summarily. There are many points to be considered, many circumstances to be kept in mind, many aspects which cannot be ignored or forgotten.

If, some time later, you can say that, under the guidance of His Highness the Maha Raja, I was able to safeguard the interests of Travancore, uphold its position, make its status, *vis a vis* other States and Provinces in India, worthy of its past and of its possibilities, then shall I have justified myself; and not till then; (*Hear, hear,*) and, moreover, in all that I do, believe me when I affirm most sincerely that I shall endeavour to take the Legislature with me, that I shall endeav-

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our whenever possible to take the Legislature into confidence. It will be my ambition to make this Legislature a vital element of the body politic of Travancore. (*Hear, hear.*) It is in that hope and in that expectation, with those aspirations and with those ideals, that I shall occupy this Chair.

I thank you fervently and from the bottom of my heart for the very kindly sentiments to which I have listened with gratitude and pleasure, with pride and with humility. (*Cheers.*)

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASVAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : Sir, I beg to lay on the table the following statement of expenditure authorised by the Government under Section 32 of Regulation II of 1108.

Demand.	Amount in Rupees.	Particulars.
I. Public Works Department.	33,000	For the payment of the balance amount due for the purchase of a Grab Dredger for the Alleppey Port, etc.

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

PRESIDENT: Under Rule 3, sub-rule (2) of the Travancore Legislative Rules, I nominate Mr. K. C. Abraham and Mr. Pacode A. Narayana Pillai to the Panel of Chairmen for this session of the Assembly.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE TRAVANCORE AGRICULTURISTS' RELIEF BILL.

PRESIDENT: We shall now take up the consideration of the Travancore Agriculturists' Relief Bill.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : Sir, we are at the third reading stage of the Agriculturists' Relief Bill. Before I make the motion for passing the Bill, I have certain amendments to place before this House and shall proceed to move them one by one.

The first amendment I move is as follows :

"*In Clause 3, omit the Proviso to sub-clause* (1) (*b*)."

The Proviso in question reads as follows :—

"Provided that the jurisdiction of the Boards established under Section 3, sub-clause (1) (a) shall be so defined and adjusted as to include the whole State."

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